

He regretted that he was unable to give the Society a formal address, and concluded with some interesting remarks upon the geographical distribution of the land mollusca in different parts of the world, a subject which he thought might well occupy the attention of malacologists. He specially pointed out that the systems of division of the earth's surface into zoological areas at present in vogue, notably Selater's, could not be applied to the land mollusca, citing amongst other cases that of Australia, where the northern land mollusca were absolutely distinct from those of the south and indicated a different origin.

On the motion of Mr. S. I. Da Costa, seconded by Mr. H. B. Preston, a vote of thanks was passed to the Retiring Officers, the Retiring Members of Council, the Auditors, and the Scrutineers, Dr. Blanford, the Retiring President, being specially thanked for his valuable services.

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 1901.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., President, in the Chair.

Richard H. Bentley was elected to membership of the Society.

Exhibitions were placed on the table by the following :—

Mr. J. E. S. Moore: a large series of mollusca collected by him during his second visit to Lakes Tanganyika and Nyassa and the Great African Lakes forming the sources of the Nile. He drew special attention to the fact that no traces could be found in Nyassa, Kivu, Albert Edward, Albert, and Victoria Nyanzas of the strange fauna which is so characteristic of Tanganyika. Amongst the exhibits was a supposed new species of *Bythoceras* from Tanganyika, and a new Gastropod from Albert Edward Nyanza. This shell resembles a *Planorbis* in form, but appears to be in reality a *Melania*.

Mr. E. A. Smith: a small box of the so-called Breeding Pearls, presented to him by Mr. H. M. Bernard.

Mr. E. R. Sykes: some rare Volutes (*V. Sophie*), and a large series of *Achatinella* from the Philippines illustrating their extraordinary variation.

Mr. J. E. Cooper: a series of distorted British Lamellibranchs, also the rare *Myrina Simpsoni*, Marshall, from Fisher Bank, east of Orkneys, and *Mangilia rugosa*, Phil., from Achil Island, co. Mayo.

Mr. S. I. Da Costa: a collection of *Aperostoma* from South and Central America.

The Rev. R. Ashington Bullen: a large series of *Cypræa*, showing colour variations; also a series of *Helices*.

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 8TH MARCH, 1901.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read :—

1. "Note on the Anatomy of *Thersites (Hadra) bipartita* (Fér.)." By S. Pace, F.Z.S.
2. "New Marine Shells from 'The Kowie' of South Africa." By G. B. Sowerby, F.L.S.
3. "New Marine Shells from the Philippines." By G. B. Sowerby, F.L.S.
4. "A new species of *Marginella*." By G. B. Sowerby, F.L.S.

Exhibitions were placed on the table by the following :—

Mr. E. A. Smith : specimens of *Paludestrina Taylora*, Smith, a new species recently found at Dukenfield, Cheshire, where it occurs abundantly in the canal ; also a variety of *Bithynia tentaculata* (Linn.) from the Pevensy Marshes ; this variety, which is characterized by raised longitudinal stripes, occurs in association with the ordinary unicolorous form ; a similar variation was presented by the Limnææ from the same locality.

Dr. Lyster Jameson : a large series of Pearl Oysters : he stated his belief that three species existed, viz., *Margaritifera margaritifera* (Linn.), *M. vulgaris* (Schum.), and *M. carchariarum*, Jameson. The first of these could again be divided into a number of geographical races or varieties. He also exhibited specimens of a *Perna* found above ordinary high-water mark, only in reach of the spray or of high spring tides.

Mr. S. Pace : a very fine series of Pearl Oysters, selected specially to show all the early stages of growth and the difficulty of distinguishing the different forms in the spat stages ; also a series of specimens showing the great variations met with in the shells of *Drillia sterra*, Watson, and *Phos sculptilis*, A. Ad., both of which were originally described from single dead specimens collected by the "Challenger" expedition ; also specimens and drawings in illustration of his paper.

Mr. M. F. Woodward, on behalf of Miss Donald : specimens of *Ianthina pallida*, Harv., from the Bay of Naples. The animals, which were preserved in formol, showed the float, and some were still attached to their prey, *Velutella*.

Mr. G. B. Sowerby : a fine series of *Phasianella australis*, Gmel., showing variation in form and colour ; also specimens in illustration of his paper.

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 12TH APRIL, 1901.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., President, in the Chair.

Mr. Charles Pannel, jun., was elected to membership of the Society.

The following communications were read :—

1. "On the Dates of Publication of Kiener's "Species général et iconographie des Coquilles vivants." By C. Davies Sherborn, F.Z.S., and B. B. Woodward, F.L.S.

2. "New species of Land-Shells from Central and South America." By S. I. Da Costa.

3. "Two apparently undescribed species of *Corbicula* from the Philippines." By the Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, M.A., F.L.S.

4. "Note on the genus *Temesa*, with descriptions of two new Land-Shells from South America." By E. R. Sykes, B.A., F.L.S.

Exhibitions were placed on the table by the following :—

The Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, on behalf of himself and Mr. Brodie : a series of *Unio complanatus*, Sol., and *U. luteolus*, Lamk., from the Laurentian region of Canada, showing variation in size and shape.

Mr. S. Pace : a series of *Turricula corrugata*, Lamk., from the Torres Straits, showing variation in the number of ribs and sculpture ; also a series of *Ocenebra aciculata*, Lamk., from Jersey.

Mr. E. R. Sykes : a specimen of *Cypræa* from Aden, supposed to be a variety of *C. gangrenosa*, Dillw.

The Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, Mr. S. I. Da Costa, and Mr. E. R. Sykes also exhibited specimens in illustration of their papers.
